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COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

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June 6, 2013

Vice Admiral James D. Syring, USN
Director, Missile Defense Agency
Department of Defense
5700 18th Street
Ft. Belvoir, VA 22060-5573

Lieutenant General Richard P. Formica, USA
Commander, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command
Post Office Box 1500
Huntsville, AL 35807-3801

Dear Vice Admiral Syring and Lieutenant General Formica:

Following the briefing you provided earlier this week, I am writing to request your responses to the following questions regarding possible future options for homeland ballistic missile defense:

1. Is there currently a validated military requirement to deploy an East Coast missile defense site?
2. Do you favor Congress mandating the deployment of an East Coast site before the completion of the pending Environmental Impact Statement required by section 227 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (Public Law 112-239)?
3. At this time do you believe there is a more effective and less expensive alternative to an East Coast missile defense site that is also available sooner than deployment of an East Coast missile defense site?

I would appreciate your responses to these questions no later than June 10, 2013, so that we may consider them for our upcoming markup of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014. I have written the questions in a way that will hopefully facilitate a prompt and unclassified response.

Sincerely,



Carl Levin
Chairman